

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00458 081324Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----016704 081328Z /47

O 081255Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5937

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 0458

EXDIS - DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

DEPT PLEASE PASS OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO

SUBJ: SIAD PERSONALLY REJECTS WITHDRAWAL BID, BUT SAYS IT WILL
BE CONSIDERED

REF: STATE 057913

1. SIAD RECEIVED ME THIS AFTERNOON AND I PLACED BEFORE HIM THE
POINTS MADE IN REFTEL. HE LISTENED WHILE I ENUMERATED EACH
POINT, POLITELY THANKED ME, AND SAID HE WOULD ASK THE COUNCIL
TO CONSIDER THE MATTER AND HE WOULD THEN REPLY.

2. THE SOMALI LEADER THEN SAID HE WANTED, HOWEVER, TO GIVE ME
HIS PERSONAL REACTION TO OUR PROPOSALS. HE SAID HE DID NOT
UNDERSTAND WHY THE UNITED STATES CHOSE TO SIDE WITH THE
SOVIETS, AND THE CUBANS AGAINST A POOR AND TINY COUNTRY. HE
SAID WITH SOME VEHEMENCE, "THEY FLEW ONE HUNDRED AND TWO
SORTIES AGAINST US YESTERDAY. NATURALLY WE CANNOT STAND UP TO
THAT KIND OF VIOLENCE. MANY WILL BE KILLED, BUT WHILE THEY
CAN HARM US, THEY CAN NEVER DEFEAT US". SIAD SAID THE US
SUPPORTS THE SOVIET POLICY IN AFRICA WITH MATERIAL AND PROPAGANDA.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MOGADI 00458 081324Z

GANDA, AND ASKED TO WHAT END. SOMALIA'S PRIVILEGE, MY
PRIVILEGE, HE CONTINUED, IS TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR FREEDOM.
THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS WILL INVADE SOMALIA, HE ADDED, AND
MAY OCCUPY BERBERA AND DESTROY MOGADISCIO, BUT HE CONTINUED,
THEY WILL NEVER DESTROY THE NATION. HE ACCUSED THE UNITED
STATES OF PREVENTING SOMALIA'S FRIENDS FROM COMING TO ITS
ASSISTANCE. HE ALSO PREDICTED THE U.S. WOULD HAVE NO

CREDIBILITY LEFT IN AFRICA ONCE SOMALIA WAS FINALLY SUBDUED.

3. SIAD ASSERTED THE SOMALI PEOPLE WERE WITH HIM. THERE ARE A FEW WHO ARE OPPOSED, HE SAID, BUT WE KNOW WHO THEY ARE, AND WE SHALL TAKE CARE OF THEM. HE SAID HE WAS NOT WORRIED. HE ADDED THAT A MAN MUST BE ABLE TO FACE DIFFICULT TIMES, AND HE COULD STILL GO TO BED, SLEEP WELL, AND FACE THE NEXT DAY WITH A CLEAR HEAD.

4. I BROKE INTO HIS ARGUMENT AT SEVERAL POINTS TO STRESS THAT THE U.S. PURPOSE WAS TO SAVE LIVES AND END THE SUFFERING AS WELL AS TO PREVENT PRE-HOSTILITIES SOMALIA FROM BEING OVERRUN. SIAD REPLIED THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF DESERTING THE SOMALIS IN THE OGADEN NO MATTER HOW MUCH SOMALIA ITSELF WOULD HAVE TO SUFFER. AT THE END OF THE DISCUSSION SIAD SAID HE HOPED HE HAD NOT SPOKEN TOO HARSHLY. THESE WERE HIS PERSONAL OPINIONS, HE ADDED. HE CONTINUED, SAYING THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS PRESENTED ITS VIEWS; "I UNDERSTAND THEY HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED". WE TOO SHALL REVIEW THEM WITH CARE IN THE COUNCIL, HE SAID, AND I SHALL SEE THAT YOU HAVE A REPLY.

5. THE SOMALI LEADER APPEARED RATHER DRAWN WHEN HE FIRST ENTERED THE ROOM. HE BRIGHTENED CONSIDERABLY DURING THE PRESENTATION, HOWEVER, AND FOUND MOMENTS TO APPROACH JOVIALITY, ALTHOUGH HIS MOOD WAS FOR THE MOST PART SERIOUS.
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MOGADI 00458 081324Z

I MENTIONED THE LIBYAN TRIP AT ONE POINT. HE OBVIOUSLY DID NOT WANT TO DISCUSS IT, AND TURNED THE SUBJECT BACK TO THE PREVIOUS VEIN.

6. SIAD'S PERSONAL AIDE OMAR SALIM AND THE DCM WERE ALSO PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRE 45 MINUTE SESSION.

7. COMMENT: GIVEN SIAD'S ATTITUDE I DO NOT THINK IT LIKELY OUR PROPOSALS WILL FIND ENDORSEMENT AMONG THE REST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. (I TAKE IT HE IS SPEAKING IN THIS SENSE OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND NOT THE SMALLER POLIT-BURO.) WHETHER SIAD SEES HIMSELF AS A LATTER DAY SOMALI WINSTON CHURCHILL OR TAKES FREDERICK THE GREAT AS A MODEL, I CANNOT BE SURE, BUT WHAT DOES APPEAR TO BE THE CASE IS THAT HE DRAWS NO LINE BETWEEN THE NATION AND ITS LEADER.
LOUGHRAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
DecapTION Date: 01 jan 1960
DecapTION Note:
Disposition Action: Released in Full
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: 200202525
Disposition Comment: RECORDING OF CLASSIFICATION/RECLASSIFICATION ACTION IN SAS (STATE ARCHIVING SYSTEM) BY THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY FOR THIS ACTION, WHO HAS APPROVED RECLASSIFICATION AND OR EXTENSION ACTION ON THIS DOCUMENT.
Disposition Date: 04 mar 2008
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: Released in Full by JOHN MILLS on 04-MAR-08 ;
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOGADI00458
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: EXDIS DIST AS NODIS, FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMB, DEPT PLEASE PASS OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850070-1710, N780003-0335
Format: TEL
From: MOGADISHU MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780393/aaaadaur.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b4c597cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 57913
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3405586
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIAD PERSONALLY REJECTS WITHDRAWAL BID, BUT SAYS IT WILL BE CONSIDERED
TAGS: PBOR, CU, ET, SO, US, UR, (SIAD BARRE, MOHAMED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbcr://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b4c597cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014